

ing spasm, producing sleep, and during its action abatement of pain. Mr. Donovan found its power great in temporarily destroying sensation, and subduing the most intense neuralgic pain. Professor Miller of Edinburgh considers its virtue to consist in a power of controlling inordinate muscular spasm. Dr. Clendinning says that in his hands its exhibition has been followed by manifest effects as a soporific or hypnotic in conciliating sleep, as an anodyne in lulling irritation, as an antispasmodic in checking cough and cramp, and as a nervous stimulant in removing languor and anxiety. The Hemp may be used in the following preparations and doses; but Dr. O'S., when in England, found that he was obliged to give as much as 10 or 12 grs. and even more; though in India he considered gr. $\frac{1}{2}$ a sufficient, and 1½ gr. of the Extract a large dose.

"EXTRACTUM CANNABIS. Resinous extract of Indian Hemp. *Prep.* Boil the rich adhesive tops of the dried *Ganyah* in *Rectified Spirit* until all the Resin is dissolved out. Distil off the Spirit with a gentle heat.

"D. This extract is effectual in gr. ss. and gr. j doses; but 10 and 20 grs. have been given in Hydrophobia and Tetanus."—Pp. 550—553.

The following observations on the geography of plants, as connected with their physical properties, are of interest:—

"Finding that the growth of plants and the nature of their secretions are so much affected by the different physical agents, we may conclude that there are particular sets of plants fitted by nature for the particular circumstances in which they are placed. The Tropical Zone is characterized by brightness of light, great heat, and moisture. These are all favourable to the development of plants, which are accordingly characterized by vastness, the foliage by richness, and the inflorescence by brilliancy of colouring. From these regions, moreover, the rest of the world is supplied with aromatics and spices. Tropical climate is not terminated by an abrupt line; but, according to the influence of local causes, is extended into higher latitudes, carrying with it the peculiarities of tropical vegetation. So also in ascending mountains, the diminution of temperature being gradual, so is the disappearance of the vegetable forms growing at their base; and we find plants diminishing in number and in size as we ascend lofty mountains. Luxuriant vegetation, however, is not confined to tropical countries; for temperate climates can equally boast of beauty and variety of scenery; where the Pine tribe are conspicuous, Oaks, with other catkin-bearing trees, form valuable timber-trees, and the small Labiatae, the aromatics of northern regions. Between these extremes, there are many gradations of temperature, of moisture, and of dryness, all of which influence the nature of the vegetation and the secretions of plants; as, for instance, the tract of country which is beyond the reach of tropical influence, and yet not so cool or so moist as European regions, but where the atmosphere is clear and dry, the temperature hot, and the soil apparently barren. All this being favourable to the due secretion of vegetable products, we obtain from Persia, Arabia, and parts of Africa, many most important drugs. Therefore, in visiting or sojourning in different countries, when acquainted with the principles of geographical distribution, we know what groups of plants to expect, and what we may hope successfully to cultivate; so also in cultivating or collecting medicinal plants in our own country, we shall be better able to weigh the influences of soil and of aspect."—P. 234.

R. E. G.

ART. XVI.—*The Pathological Anatomy of the Human Body.* By JULIUS VÖGEL, M. D., Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Giessen. Translated from the German, with additions, by GEORGE E. DAY, M. A. and L. M. Cantab., &c. &c. Illustrated by upwards of one hundred plain and coloured engravings. 8vo. pp. 534. Philadelphia, Lea and Blanchard, 1847.

THE *Pathological Anatomy* of Dr. Vögel will form a valuable addition to the library of the student and physician. A treatise on general morbid anatomy, embracing the recent discoveries effected by chemistry and the microscope, has been a desideratum which the present volume is well calculated to supply. It treats

of the morbid changes of a more general nature, which may occur in the different tissues and organs in the same, or in a very similar manner, with a notice of their general relations, causes, and consequences, so far as they are at present known. It commences with a consideration of abnormal collections of fluids in the body, whether gaseous (pneumatoses), or aqueous (dropsies). The latter being divided into serous, fibrinous, and false. Then follows the subject of pathological epigenesis, or morbid new formations, with a brief sketch of the changes which the tissues undergo in their physical properties, together with some remarks on the manner in which morbid changes in the elementary tissues are connected with each other. The next chapter treats of the independent organisms which occur in the human body, as causes or consequences of morbid changes (parasites). Then follows a chapter devoted to congenital pathological changes (malformations), and the volume concludes with a notice of the changes occurring in the body after death.

We are promised a second volume devoted to the consideration of the pathological changes affecting special organs.

The author has with great industry collected the various facts and doctrines in relation to the several subjects embraced in the present treatise that have been established by the observations of modern pathologists, or which are deserving of notice from the high character of those by whom they have been advanced. These he has arranged with much judgment, and while he has presented of them a concise but clear and candid exposition, he has been careful to give to each that degree of weight which according to his own observations and conclusions it justly merits.

We know of no work from the study of which a more accurate acquaintance may be obtained of the facts in relation to the various important particulars embraced by the subject of general morbid pathology, or a more satisfactory digest of the opinions entertained in respect to each by the modern authorities of continental Europe.

The additions made to the treatise by the editor, are, as he himself admits, trivial and unimportant, with the exception of the plates and their explanations. These are almost entirely selected from Dr. Vögel's "*Icones Histologiæ Pathologiæ*."

The first of these plates contains illustrations of the different forms of cells occurring in the development of morbid epigenesis. The second, inflammation, fibrinous exudation and their development. The third, pus and granular cells; the fourth, epigenesis of areolar tissue and organic muscular fibre; the fifth, epigenesis of blood, bones, nerves, and serous membranes; the sixth, of tubercles, encephaloid, and typhous matter; the seventh, of fatty and fibrous tumours; the eighth, of carcinoma, scirrhus, and colloid tumours; the ninth, of encysted tumours, and melanosis; and the tenth, of concrements, epiphyta, and epizoa.

Most of the objects figured convey a very tolerable idea of the subjects they are intended to illustrate, and cannot fail to increase the interest and value of the work to the student of pathological anatomy.

D. F. C.

ART. XVII.—*Summary of the Transactions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.*
From September to November, 1846, inclusive, pp. 57, 8vo.

THIS part of the Transactions of the College is an unusually rich one, comprising, in addition to some interesting discussions on practical subjects, three valuable reports, viz., the Annual Report on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, by Dr. S. Jackson;—a Report on the Protective Powers of Vaccination, by a committee of the college consisting of Dr. D. F. Condie, T. T. Hewson, and J. Wilson Moore, and one on the Varioloid Epidemic, also by a committee of the college, consisting of Drs. I. Parrish, H. Bond, and J. R. Paul.

The report of Dr. Jackson is principally devoted to a criticism on the review of Homœopathy, published in the *British and Foreign Medical Review*; an article, which, as well as that on hydropathy in the same journal, both attributed to the distinguished Editor, it must be admitted has given much offence to the profession.

In April, 1842, the college appointed a committee to investigate the protective powers of vaccination; the phenomena resulting when those who have been al-